中国故事绘
Picture Books of Chinese Stories

The Magic Ribbon

捆龙仙绳

朝華出版社
BLOSSOM PRESS

作 者

杨永青（1927–2011），著名画家，一生创作颇丰，尤以早年连环画和后期童书插画广为人知，精品众多，曾获国际安徒生奖提名、全国儿童图书评奖美术一等奖。

Yang Yongqing (1927-2011) was a renowned Chinese painter. Among his numerous works, the most celebrated are comic strips in his early years and children's book illustrations later. He was granted the first prize for artistic creation by the national children's book award committee and nominated for the Hans Christian Anderson Award.

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The Magic Ribbon

杨永青 / 编绘　李朝渊 / 译

Illustrated & Written by Yang Yongqing　Translated by Li Chaoyuan

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If you were to ask someone when this story took place, even a white-bearded old man will shake his head. One can count how many stars there are in the sky and how many pebbles there are on the riverside, but he cannot count how many years have passed since the story took place.

At that time, there was a green mountain near the sea. At the foot of the mountain was a village of farmers.

要问这个故事发生在哪年哪月，就连白眉毛、白胡子的老爷爷也只能摇头。数得清天上的星星、河滩上的沙砾，也数不清这故事经历了多少个年头儿啦！

那时候，大海边上有座青山。山脚下的村庄里住的都是庄户人家。

村东头一户人家，有父亲、母亲和一个孩子。这孩子生下来就会唱歌，连哭声都那么好听。庄户人最喜欢青青的庄稼，就给孩子取名叫青娃。

早晨，天刚蒙蒙亮，青娃的父亲就下地去干活儿了。青娃等饭熟了就给父亲送去。

The family living in the east end of the village had only one child, a boy. The boy was a good singer when he was born. Even his cries sounded musical. His parents, like all farmers who loved the freedom of their country life and the greenness of their crops, named their son Free Green.

Every morning, Free Green's father got up at daybreak and went to the fields for farm work. The boy would later bring food to him when it was ready.

在离田地不远的草丛里，长着红宝石一样的野草莓，又红又鲜，让人看着就流口水。青娃高兴地去摘，越走草越深，越走草越密。

One day on the boy's way to the fields, he saw in the grass some wild strawberries, red and fresh like rubies, making his mouth water. Free Green was so excited that he went in the grass to pick them, only to find the grass thicker and higher than he expected.

忽听“嗖”的一声，草丛里蹿出了一条黑蛇，一口咬住了一只正在唱歌的小鸟。青娃一见，顺手抄起一根树枝，朝黑蛇劈头盖脸抡了过去。黑蛇冷不防挨了一下子，丢下小鸟，钻进茂密的草丛溜走了。

"Whoosh!" A black snake came out of the grass and caught a singing little bird. Free Green picked up a twig and threw it towards the black snake. The snake was struck and had to let go of the bird and fled into the grass.

蛇口逃生的小鸟长着一身漂亮的羽毛，尖尖的小嘴，雪白的脸，可讨人喜欢了。青娃找到一株草药，给小鸟包扎好伤口。小鸟渐渐苏醒过来，梳理一下羽毛，抖抖翅膀，朝青娃叫了几声就飞走了。

The bird survived but was wounded. It was a very good-looking bird, with beautiful plumage, its bill little but sharp. Free Green found a special herb to treat its wound. The bird soon recovered, groomed itself, flapped its wings and chirped goodbye to Free Green before it flew away.

黑蛇没讨到便宜不甘心，一头扎进深潭底，哭哭啼啼地找到恶龙，说："小弟受了一个叫青娃的小子的欺侮，被打伤了。他还说要填平龙潭呢……"

The black snake regretted its failure and went deep into the water to complain to the dragon, its big brother, "I was beaten by a boy named Free Green. He even threatened to fill up your pond with rocks..." said the snake with its lying tongue.

恶龙一听，暴跳如雷。它飞出深潭，兴风作浪：狂风掀倒了房屋，拔起了树木；大水冲毁了堤坝，淹没了良田。青娃一家和乡亲们来不及收拾东西，扶老携幼，艰难地向高山上爬去。

The dragon became very angry upon hearing this. It flew out of the water, raised winds and waves, destroyed the houses and trees, and flooded the dams and fields. Free Green and his fellow villagers had to leave everything behind and make their way to the mountain for shelter.

黑蛇领着恶龙追来了。正在这危急的时刻，只见一个长翅膀的小姑娘闪电般抓住青娃，飞上天空，转眼间就无影无踪了。

The black snake and the dragon went after them. At this critical moment, a little girl with wings took Free Green and flew him into the sky. They flew so fast they disappeared in a flash.

小姑娘带着青娃飞呀、飞呀，飞到一座仙山上。这座山上的树木冬夏常青，花草四时鲜艳，瓜果漫山遍野。流水淙淙，像弹琴一样好听。小姑娘把青娃带到了一位仙姑面前，青娃躬身道谢。可仙姑说："是你救了我的小女儿，我应当先向你道谢才是！"小姑娘咯咯笑着，藏到仙姑身后。青娃这才明白，原来小姑娘就是他从蛇口里救下的小鸟。

The little girl and Free Green kept flying all the way until they reached a fairy mountain. On the mountain, trees were green all year round, flowers were in bloom in all seasons, and fruits and berries were all over the place. The creeks flowed in the mountain as if their clear water was playing some pleasant music.

The little girl took Free Green to meet a fairy, and Free Green thanked the little girl. But the fairy said, "You saved my little daughter. It's me who should be thanking you." The little girl giggled and hid herself behind the fairy. Free Green now came to realize that the little girl was actually the bird he'd saved from the mouth of the black snake.

仙姑捧出无数金银珠宝送给青娃，他摇摇头，一样也不要。青娃只想要一样宝贝来制服恶龙，让乡亲们不再受伤害。仙姑喜欢青娃有志气，就满口答应了。

The fairy presented Free Green with lots and lots of gold, silver and jewelry, but he shook his head and took none. What he wanted was a weapon to defeat the dragon so that his fellow villagers could be protected against any harm it could cause. The fairy praised his determination and promised to give him what he wanted.

小姑娘递过来一个仙桃，青娃吃了，精神百倍，力气大增。

The little girl gave him a fresh peach. Free Green felt more energetic and powerful after eating it.

仙姑捧出一条长长的彩带，送给青娃，说："这是捆龙仙绳，不但能捆住恶龙，而且捆上后叫它变成什么就能变成什么。但是，捆龙仙绳只能变一次，多了就不灵了。它能长能短，能含在嘴里，可含到嘴里时不能说'变'，一说'变'，自己就变了。"

The fairy then gave him a long ribbon and said, "This is a magic ribbon. Not only can it tie the dragon, but it can also change into anything at your command. But it can change only once and will lose its magic power if it's changed too many times. It can become long or short, short enough to fit into your mouth. When you hold it in your mouth and say 'Change', it will change."

青娃想着父亲、母亲和乡亲们，匆忙答应下来。仙姑摘下一片荷叶，轻轻一吹，荷叶便托着青娃飞了起来。

Thinking of his parents and fellow villagers, Free Green took the ribbon right away. The fairy plucked a lotus leaf and sent Free Green flying home on it.

家乡依然大雨倾盆，地上白浪滔天，眼看大水就要漫上山头。这时，青娃坐着荷叶飞来了，落在岩石上。山崩地裂一声巨响，震落一块大石头，正砸在幸灾乐祸的黑蛇头上。黑蛇翻卷了一下，死啦！

The village was still at the mercy of the rain and the flood waters, which had risen almost to the mountain top. At this moment, Free Green arrived with his lotus leaf and landed on a rock. With a deafening roar, the huge rock tumbled down the mountain and fell right onto the head of the black snake. The snake made a painful twist and died — one minute earlier it had been taking pleasure in its revenge and the villagers' misfortune.

The dragon angrily came to Free Green. Free Green opened his mouth and released the ribbon. All of a sudden in myriads of glowing rays, the ribbon tied the dragon fast.

恶龙向青娃苦苦哀求，说是只要饶它一条命，就再也不为非作歹了。青娃心一软，对恶龙说："饶你一条命，往后再不学好，抓住你定不宽恕！"青娃说着，收回捆龙仙绳。恶龙摇身一变，化作一条虫子，一伸一缩地钻进了草丛。

The dragon begged Free Green to spare its life and promised to behave itself in the future. The kind boy believed the dragon's words and said, "I'll spare your life this time. If I catch you doing bad things again, you'll die." He then took back the magic ribbon. The dragon changed itself into a worm and went into the grass.

水退了，乡亲们回到村里。这一年，庄稼长得特别好。可后来不知为什么，庄稼一夜之间变成灰白色，一片片地枯死了。乡亲们心疼得直掉泪。

原来，恶龙变成的虫子躲在稻子里，不但咬庄稼，还不停地变出飞蛾、小肉虫，捉不尽，抓不完。青娃真后悔，不该放走恶龙！

The flood receded and the villagers came home. That year the crops were growing very well. But later for no reason at all the crops turned grey and died overnight. The villagers were heartbroken and all in tears.

It turned out to be the trick of the dragon. As a worm hiding in the crops, it changed into thousands of moths and pests eating the crops. There were so many of them that it was impossible to bring things under control. Free Green regretted setting the dragon free.

Free Green was so angry that his belly swelled and his eyes protruded. He put the magic ribbon into his mouth and said, "Just turn me into a small animal to eat the pests!"

Immediately his body became small, his eyes big and protruding, and he began eating the pests with his long tongue.

青娃气得肚子鼓了，眼睛也突出来了。他愤怒地把捆龙仙绳含在嘴里，说："干脆让我变成专吃虫子的小动物吧！"

话一出口，青娃的身子一下缩小了，瞪着两只大眼睛，伸出长长的舌头，把虫子吞到肚子里了。

小鸟姑娘和仙姑娘娘也变成山雀，飞上飞下帮着青娃捉虫子。可是，青娃再也不能变回原来的样子了。世世代代，他永远是害虫的死对头。人们为了纪念他，就把这种捉害虫的小动物叫作"青蛙"。

The little girl and the fairy also turned into songbirds, flying over to eat the pests. Unfortunately, Free Green could no longer be changed back into a human. For all his life and his future generations, Free Green was the powerful enemy of pests. "Hero Frog" was the name people gave to this kind of pest-eating animal. They named it after Free Green.

绳与绳结

文/老猫 凉皮

故事《捆龙仙绳》中，好孩子青娃用仙姑送的仙绳捆住了恶龙。绳子在生活中很常见，比如晾衣服的绳子、鞋带、跳绳、包装绳……好啦，我们不陷在这些乱麻一般的绳头里，还是先从历史上说起吧。

绳子、绳结的用途

绳子最初是用于捆扎的。在有了钱币之后，人们用绳子来串铜钱。比如一百枚铜钱用绳子串起来，叫一吊；一千枚串起来，就是一贯了。古人将绳子穿过镜子背面的镜纽，方便把镜子拿在手里；还会用绳子（绶带）将印玺系在腰上，或用绳子（玉环绶）把玉环佩挂在服饰上作为装饰。

如果你以为绳子只有这些用处，那就小瞧它了。绳子曾经有很重要的地位。绳子可以打成各种结，常以“结”的形式出现。在文字出现之前，很多大事情都可以靠各种绳子记录下来，也包括记账——每个绳结都代表不同的意思，这就是结绳记事。文字出现后，绳结逐渐失去了记事的作用。

绳结后来常常被作为装饰结，垂挂在香袋、发簪、烟袋等物件上。清代旗袍上面的盘扣也是用绳子编织成的，或蝴蝶状，或琵琶状，或花形等。绳结成了服饰的点缀，增添了雅致的效果。

和绳有关的成语、俗语

成语“结草衔环”常用来比喻感恩报德，其中的“结草”二字说的就是把草结为绳子以用来搭救恩人。成语“规矩准绳”用来指应当遵从的标准，其中的“绳”是指用来测定平直的器具——绳墨（没见过？可以去网上搜一搜或去博物馆里看一看）。

大家常常会说的俗语“一朝被蛇咬，十年怕井绳”是用来比喻人在一件事上吃了苦头，以后遇到类似的情况就会害怕。你还知道别的与绳、绳结有关的俗语吗？

精美的中国结

说了这么多关于绳、绳结的知识，你知道在世界人民眼里最能代表中国绳结文化的是什么吗？对喽，那就是中国结。

千百年来，中国人凭借自己的聪明智慧以及灵巧的双手，慢慢编织出了如今美丽的中国结。每一个中国结都是由一整根丝线编成的手工艺品。它不仅做工精致，造型优美，而且颜色还很丰富，有红色、黄色、蓝色……

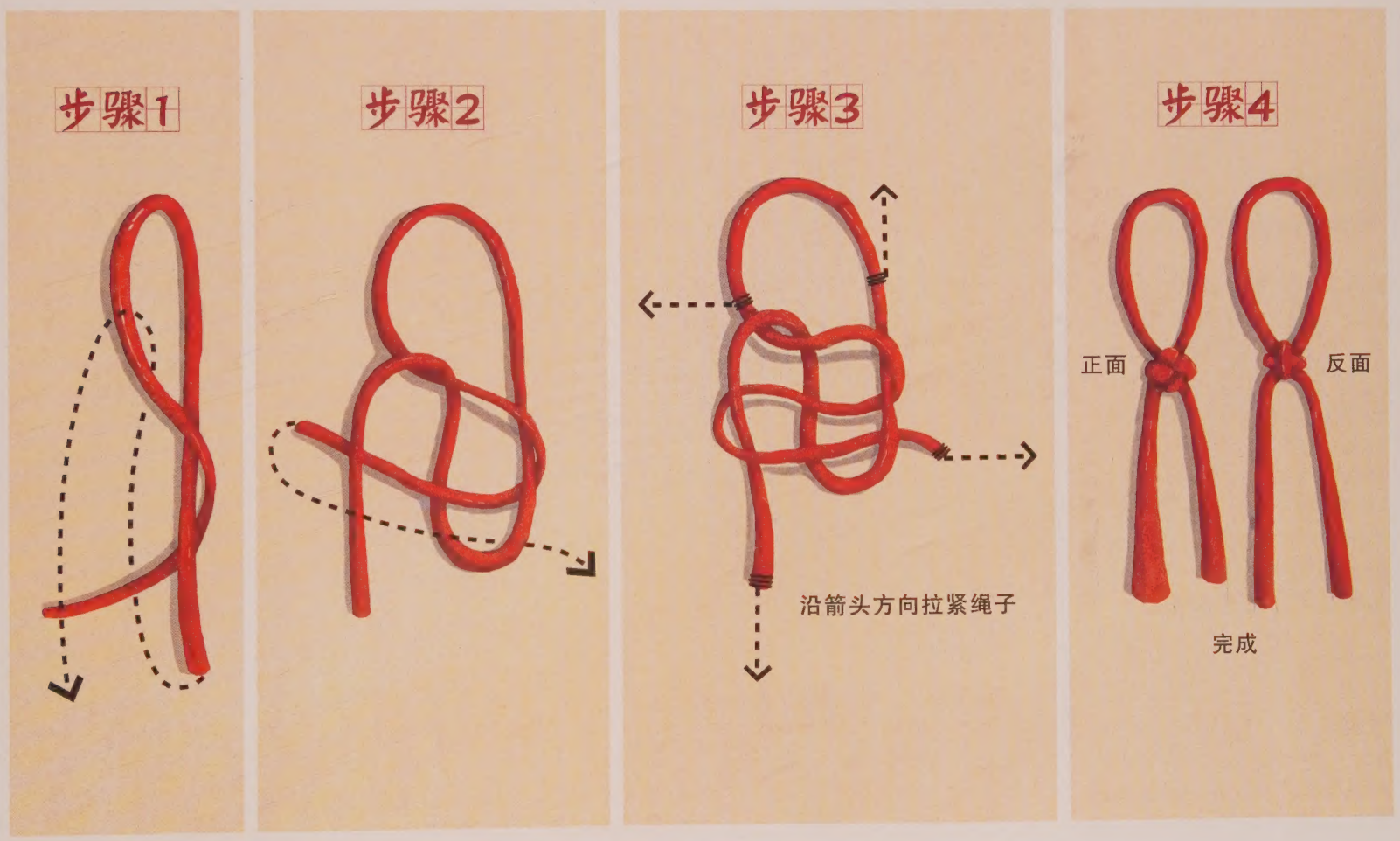
根据编结方式不同，中国结也分为很多种类。有最常见的“吉祥结”“盘长结”，有看起来像叠在一起的中国古铜钱的“双钱结”，有看起来像小纽扣的“纽扣结”，还有形状像飘浮的云朵的“祥云结”等等。

美丽又有特点的中国结受到了世界各地人们的欢迎，传递给人们很多美好的寓意，比如“吉祥如意”“幸福平安”“一路顺风”等。正是因为有这么多吉祥美好的寓意，所以中国结常被人们作为装饰品挂在家中，或是作为礼物送给身边的亲朋好友。

如果你有外国朋友，可以送给他中国结哟！没准儿你的外国朋友会从此对中国文化产生兴趣呢！

好啦，现在就让我们一起动手，来编织一个简单又漂亮的十字结吧！

【做一做】动手编织一个十字结。尽量找一根粗一点的绳子，沿箭头指示的方向操作即可。



【玩一玩】准备一根绳子，两头系好，结成一个绳圈，用它和爸爸妈妈或者朋友们一起玩玩翻绳游戏吧！

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作　　者 杨永青
翻　　译 李朝渊
审　　定 [美] Steven Orton

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这些故事是中国人共同的记忆，深藏着中国人的智慧……我乐于给孩子们讲述这些故事，更愿讲述故事背后传承的中国文化。

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